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STATEMENT

OF THE

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

OF THE

TOWN OF CHESTER,

FOR THE YEAR

1865-6.

MANCHESTER, N. H.:

PRINTED BY CHARLES F. LIVINGSTON, SMYTH'S BLOCK.

1866.

NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATE LIBRARY



REPORTS

OF THE

SELECTMEN AND TOWN TREASURER.

The Selectmen charge themselves with the following amount drawn from the Town Treasury, \$19,715 87

And account for the same as follows:

IMPROVEMENT ON HIGHWAYS.

1865.

Paid Moses Webster, work on bridge,	\$4 75
W. D. Smith, 4 stringers, \$6.00, labor on bridge, \$6.35,	12 35
Melvin & Crawford, plank for Wilson bridge,	11 87
Melvin & Crawford, plank for bridge, Dist. No. 10,	10 55
John Coleman, with oxen, 14 days,	28 00
Rufus W. Moore, with oxen, 29 days,	58 00
David Lane, 24 1-2 days,	49 00
John L. Marden, 16 days,	32 00
James Towle, timber,	30 00
Hazen W. French, 13 days,	26 00
Nathaniel West, stone and 24 1-2 days,	59 00
Sylvester W. Wilbur, 19 days,	32 00
James Marden, 25 days,	50 00
E. Marden, drills \$1.00, 37 1-2 days,	76 00

1865.

Paid James R. Gordon, blacksmith work,	\$8 58	
C. B. Cheswell,	39 00	
George Marden, bridge plank,	5 87	
Daniel Sanborn, stone work,	19 00	
Lewis Kimball, stone for bridge,	2 00	
William Greenough, powder and nails,	2 88	
	<hr/>	\$556 85

NEW ROADS.

Paid H. S. Hazelton, award for land,	\$15 00	
Nancy Reynolds,	25 00	
James Hook, for labor,	7 00	
	<hr/>	\$47 00

Paid John V. Emerson, building Raymond and Chester road,	\$240 50	
John B. Rand, award for land,	80 00	
Thomas Seavey, do	80 00	
Coffin N. French, do	171 50	
	<hr/>	\$572 00

BREAKING ROADS.--1865.

Paid David E. Richardson,	\$7 50	
Geo. W. Clark,	2 62	
Parker Morse,	5 00	
S. W. Edwards,	50	
H. E. True,	3 37	
Lewis Kimball,	2 12	
J. Webster,	5 13	
N. Weeks,	5 37	
	<hr/>	\$31 61

NON-RESIDENT TAXES.

Paid non-resident taxes worked out,	\$47 06
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ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

1864.

Paid David Dearborn, paid in Mass.,	\$3 89
John Carr, unable,	2 98
Samuel Rand, unable,	2 98
Isaac Sweeney, left town,	3 98
Enos Sweeney, do	2 98
Charles Hardy, do	2 98
Moody James, do	2 98
Daniel Osgood, do	2 98
Amos Green, poll tax 1863-4,	5 08

1865.

Paid Robert Sanborn, error,	90
J. Crowley,	1 80
J. L. Lovett, paid in Mass.,	4 80
J. Colman, paid in Auburn,	5 48
	<hr/>
	\$43 81

PRINTING AND STATIONERY.

Paid C. F. Livingston, town accounts and warrants,	40 00
C. F. Livingston, tax returns and notes,	5 00
Stationery,	2 50
	<hr/>
	\$47 50

CEMETERY.

Paid T. S. Morse,	1 20
C. L. Weymouth,	2 00
J. Pressey, for bier,	3 00
	<hr/>
	\$6 20

TOWN HALL.

Paid window glass and labor,	\$3 00
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TOWN AGENT.

Paid witness fees in Rollins' case,	\$17 00
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1865.

Paid Charles H. Bell,	\$50 00
T. J. Melvin, services and expenses,	17 00
D. Cross, for advice,	2 00
	<hr/> \$86 00

DEBTS PAID.

Paid S. S. Gale, note,	\$110 85
A. P. R. Smith, note,	249 52
Dr. J. P. Whittemore, note,	762 85
J. B. Cheswell, “	418 29
O. P. Gillingham, “	155 75
Stephen Pingree, “	196 10
C. P. Abbot, “	312 00
C. H. West, “	395 33
Isaac L. Seavey, “	1812 25
J. W. Smith, “	216 17
Geo. S. Smith, “	108 08
Geo. S. Smith, “	543 05
Samuel S. Morse, “	108 65
John Little, “	424 00
John Little, “	1742 17
C. B. Robie, “	424 56
D. Bell, “	873 15
J. Chase, “	177 70
J. L. Lovett, “	530 61
A. Currier, “	1890 39
	<hr/> \$11,451 47

ENDORSEMENTS.

Paid, April 1, John Ordway,	\$120 00
June 17, John Locke,	50 00
27, Abigail Currier,	225 00
Aug. 19, John Locke,	200 00
Sept. 6, Philip Nowell,	60 00
16, Dolloff,	30 00
19, R. K. Currier,	30 00
20, Cyrus Marston,	22 00

1865.

Paid, Nov. 22, J. W. Hazelton,	\$24 00
Dec. 11, Mrs. Daniel Wilson,	18 00
27, Mrs. Nancy Aiken,	86 52
30, C. True,	90 52
30, B. Davis,	30 90

1866.

Paid, Jan. 10, R. Lawrence,	8 00
10, F. Wason,	43 50
Feb. 10, S. S. Adams,	100 80
13, G. F. Tebbetts,	92 68
R. Lawrence,	16 00
E. F. Nichols,	30 00
W. Colburn,	60 00
W. B. Robie,	21 00
Fred. B. Morse,	27 00
Geo. W. Hook,	24 00
N. B. Goldsmith,	30 00
C. Dolloff,	150 00
C. H. West,	15 00
<hr/> \$1604 92	

BOUNTY TO SOLDIERS' FAMILIES.

1865.

Paid Mrs. J. M. M. Elliot, to June 1,	\$36 00
J. L. Blaisdell, July 1,	16 00
F. S. Clay, Apr. 1,	8 00
Henry D. Davis, June 1,	36 00
C. L. Weymouth, July 1,	32 00
A. S. Nichols, May 1,	24 00
S. S. Gale, Sept. 1,	48 00
Hannah Currier, July 1,	12 00
C. A. West, June 23,	15 00
Joseph W. Chase, June 23,	30 00
John W. Hazelton, June 23,	45 00
C. P. Abbot, July 1,	32 00
C. P. Abbot, for mother, July 1,	8 00
Samuel V. Osgood, June 1,	42 00
Sarah B. Marston, June 17,	14 00
Joseph R. Morse, Aug. 1,	17 00

1365.

Paid Mrs. John W. West, 2d, June 23,	\$19 00
P. C. Ingalls, June 17,	41 00
Geo. W. Wilcomb, June 23,	45 00
C. H. West, June 23,	45 00
F. Savoie, June 17,	32 00
C. Dolloff, Aug. 1,	20 00
W. H. Underhill, Aug. 1,	36 00
R. H. Currier, July 1,	32 00
W. E. Coburn, Aug. 1,	60 00
E. Nichols, Aug. 1,	24 00
Hannah P. Sanborn, Aug. 1,	40 00
	<hr/> \$809 00

RECRUITING AGENT.

Paid Silas F. Learnard,	\$150 00
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STATE AND COUNTY TAXES.

Paid State taxes,	\$2,242 50
County taxes,	622 99
	<hr/> \$2,865 49

SCHOOL MONEY.

Paid District Number 1,	\$188 95
2,	96 92
3,	97 90
4,	55 90
5,	38 17
6,	43 99
7,	56 27
8,	67 88
9,	34 36
10,	29 74
1, in Auburn,	10 00
	<hr/> \$720 08

COLLECTOR.

1865.

Paid, James M. Kent,	\$153 49
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SCHOOL TAX ON TOWN FARM.

Paid School tax on Town Farm,	\$1 96
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MISCELLANEOUS.

March 9. Paid Ebenezer Marden, services with Road Commissioners, \$3 00	
James M. Kent, collector's book, one day to Man- chester and expenses,	4 75
	<hr/> \$7 75

TOWN CLERK.

Paid W. F. Robie,	\$7 50
C. S. Wilcomb,	7 50
	<hr/> \$15 00

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

Paid Luther Fitz,	\$40 00
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TOWN TREASURER.

Paid Thomas J. Melvin,	\$25 00
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SELECTMEN'S SERVICES.

Paid T. J. Melvin,	\$41 75
Lucien Kent,	40 50
J. B. Cheswell,	10 50
	<hr/> \$92 75

SELECTMEN'S EXPENSES.

1865.

Paid L. Kent's bill,	\$11 50	
D. L. Batchelder,	5 25	
	<hr/>	\$16 75

AUDITOR'S SERVICES.

Paid William Greenough.	\$1 00	
Moses Webster,	1 00	
William Crawford,	1 00	
	<hr/>	\$3 00

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT.

The Town of Chester in account with THOMAS J. MELVIN,
Treasurer, 1865-6:

1865.

CR.

By balance in Treasury last year,	\$341 65	
Mar. 23. A. P. R. Smith, hired,	300 00	
Henry Moore, "	183 48	
Apr. 1. John Lane, Jr., "	275 00	
6. Betsey Pressey, "	50 00	
Railroad tax,	50 50	
Cyrus Hills, hired,	300 00	
May 15. C. B. Hall, "	250 00	
20. Wm. P. Underhill, hired,	500 00	
July 3. F. R. Stevens, "	100 00	
J. G. Hall, "	100 00	
Aug. 12. Sarah E. Mullet, "	130 00	
Nov. 13. Lydia Wallace, "	210 00	
Martha Hatch, "	50 00	
Dec. 27. State, for State aid,	2130 35	
Savings Bank,	77 90	
Literary Fund,	34 00	

1866.

Jan. 11. Daniel Sanborn, hired,	50 00	
Daniel S. Brown, "	70 00	
Feb. 1. Alex Procter, "	1400 00	

1866.

Feb. 17.	Samuel S. Morse, hired,	\$100 00	
	J. S. Couch, (Hall & Couch case,)	78 61	
14.	Ezekiel Currier,	1000 00	
	Lucien Kent,	1400 00	
17.	Abigail Currier,	1800 00	
	County, for Kenison,	94 00	
	W. D. Knowles,	120 00	
	A. S. Dearborn, tax '63,	9 63	
	Jas. M. Kent, on tax list of 1864-5,	8761 24	
			<u>\$19,966 36</u>

The Town of Chester in account with THOMAS J. MELVIN,
Treasurer, 1865-6:

1865-6.

DR.

Cash paid for improvement highways,	\$556 85
New roads,	619 40
Breaking roads,	31 61
Non-res. taxes worked out,	47 06
Abatement of taxes,	43 81
Printing and stationery,	47 50
Care of cemetery,	6 20
Town hall,	3 00
Town agent,	86 00
Debts paid,	11,451 47
Endorsements,	1604 94
Bounty to soldiers' families,	809 00
Recruiting agent,	150 00
State and county taxes,	2865 49
School money,	720 08
Collector's bill,	153 49
School tax on town farm,	1 96
Eben Marden,	3 00
James M. Kent,	4 75
Town clerk,	15 00
Superintending school com.,	40 00
Town treasurer,	25 00
Selectmen's bill,	92 75

1865-6.

Dr.

Cash paid for Town farm,	\$258 78	
Off town farm,	59 00	
Selectmen's expenses,	16 75	
Auditors' bill,	3 00	
Balance in hands of Treas.,	250 49	
		<u>\$19,966 36</u>

STATEMENT.

The Town owes the following debts :

L. C. True, note and interest,	\$238 20
Lucy A. Green,	238 20
L. C. True,	238 20
John Ordway,	1063 60
John Locke,	1409 42
Jane R. Brown,	561 18
Osgood True,	112 36
William Moore,	842 70
Edmund Sleeper,	224 72
Daniel Sanborn,	337 08
John Lane,	112 36
Benjamin Davis,	250 90
Lewis Kimball,	112 36
Parker Morse,	112 36
Nancy Aiken,	700 00
George Moore,	1348 32
George Cammett,	112 36
True G. Sanborn,	112 36
James M. Kent,	561 80
C. L. Weymouth,	159 00
Robert Rogers,	318 00
Mary A. Dearborn,	742 00
Sally A. Hazelton,	53 00
John White,	424 00
Mary Sanborn,	138 00
Philip Nowell,	1030 00
John W. Noyes,	530 00
Benjamin F. Davis,	159 00

John Wallace, note and interest,	\$106 00
Martha A. Hatch,	106 00
Asa Sanborn,	106 00
Isaac Lane,	100 00
Sarah E. Mullet,	530 00
Susan Mullet,	371 00
Rufus Sanborn,	150 00
Sarah E. Mullet,	604 20
Jeremiah Bailey,	106 00
A. F. B. Edwards,	424 00
R. H. Currier,	288 00
Susan P. Ingalls,	318 00
Asenath Dearbon,	424 00
Samuel H. Quincy,	310 00
Samuel H. Quincy,	143 10
G. W. Wilcomb,	530 00
John W. Hazelton,	400 00
George H. McDuffee,	424 00
John W. West, 2d,	424 00
Cyrus S. Marston,	365 00
Elbridge Wason,	477 00
J. J. Elliot,	424 00
Charles F. True,	440 00
George F. Tebbetts,	225 32
Sarah J. Pingree,	318 00
George Marden,	106 00
Mehitable Wilson,	300 00
Josiah Fitzs,	318 00
James M. Kent,	212 00
J. B. Cheswell,	106 00
H. L. Pollard,	530 00
Eliphalet Brown,	252 64
Ezra E. Rogers,	106 00
Betsy Webster,	132 50
Betsy Webster,	106 00
Elbridge Wason,	98 58
Frederick Wason,	725 00
Abby S. Spofford,	63 60
Cyrus S. Dolloff,	164 50
Frederick D. Morse,	450 00

George W. Hook, note and int.,	\$400 00
A.P. Greenough,	530 00
R. C. Lawrence, Jr.,	400 00
Samuel S. Adams,	355 00
W. B. Robie,	350 00
W. H. Underhill,	477 00
Elzira F. Nichols,	500 00
Willard E. Colburn,	258 00
George S. Underhill,	150 52
B. F. Underhill,	477 00
N. B. Goldsmith,	500 00
Joseph R. Morse,	530 00
A. P. R. Smith,	318 00
Henry Moore,	195 00
John Lane, 2d,	291 50
Betsy Pressey,	53 00
Cyrus Hills,	318 00
C. B. Hall,	261 25
W. P. Underhill,	521 25
F. R. Stevens,	103 50
J. G. Hall,	103 50
Sarah E. Mullet,	133 90
Lydia Wallace,	210 00
Martha Hatch,	50 00
Daniel Sanborn,	50 00
Daniel S. Brown,	70 00
Alexis Proctor,	1400 00
Samuel S. Morse,	100 00
Ezekiel Currier,	1000 00
Lucien Kent,	1400 00
Abigail Currier,	1800 00
W. D. Knowles,	120 00
	<hr/> \$37,452 34

The following sums are due the town:

From James D. Bell,	25 00
State, for State aid,	365 00
United States,	2360 00

From J. M. Kent, tax list, 1865,	\$1100 00	
Cash in hands of treasurer,	250 49	
	<hr/>	\$4,100 49
Balance against the town,		<u>\$33,351 85</u>

CHESTER, N. H., Feb. 27, 1866.

We, the undersigned, have this day examined the Selectmen's and Town Treasurer's accounts for the year past, and find the same correctly cast, with proper vouchers for the several charges.

WILLIAM GREENOUGH,	}	AUDITORS.
MOSES WEBSTER,		
WILLIAM CRAWFORD,		

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

OF THE

OVERSEER OF THE POOR OF CHESTER,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY, 1866.

TOWN FARM.

RECEIPTS.

By cash received of County,	\$480 35
J. H. Adams, yoke oxen,	150 25
Lucy Bell, for labor,	29 00
Produce and labor,	69 37
Town Treasury,	258 78
	<hr style="width: 100%;"/> \$987 75 <hr style="width: 100%;"/>

EXPENDITURES.

Paid Wm. Greenough's bill :	
7 bbls. flour,	\$86 25
20 lbs. clover s'd, \$6, 2 bu. red-top, \$3,	9 00
1-2 bu. H. G. seed,	3 50
43 1-2 yds. sheeting,	16 53
44 yds. sheeting,	16 72
3 1-2 yds. satinet,	4 38
5 1-2 yds. tweed,	4 40
5 yds. crash,	1 15
47 lbs. sugar,	8 21

Paid Wm. Greenough,

9 lbs. tea,	\$10 80	
16 gals. molasses, \$9.60, 16 do. \$11.20,	20 80	
Sundry groceries and dry goods,	34 99	
	<hr/>	\$216 73

Paid C. C. Parker, 127 lbs. fish, \$8.26,

16 1-2 lbs. tongues and sounds,		9 91
David Currier, blacksmith work,		8 70
James R. Gordon, blacksmith work,		22 22
Dr. J. F. Brown, doctor's bill,		15 75
Jonathan Pressey, 4 coffins,		20 00
E. Adams, lumber,		11 72
Geo Marden, 16 gals. soap,		3 20
John Robie, 1 shoat,		17 00
Geo. H. Bell, beef,		6 62
Pike & Williams, dry goods,		15 62
J. V. Emerson, yoke of oxen,		175 00
James Hook, 2 bu. rye meal,	\$4 25	
1 bu. beans, \$3.00, chain, \$1.25,		
sled, \$2.88,	4 13	
Sundries,	12 86	
	<hr/>	\$21 24

Paid James Hook :

11 days at town farm,	\$11 00	
Attending burial of Blaisdell,	75	
Exchange of oxen,	1 50	
1 day, horse and wagon to Kingston,	3 00	
1 day with County Commissioners,	1 00	
2 days settling accounts,	2 00	
Services as overseer,	10 00	
	<hr/>	\$29 25

Paid H. M. Bailey, boiler and tin ware,

N. R. West, repairing wagon,		4 50
Melvin & Crawford, 30 cords wood,		15 00
John G. Hall :		
2 bbls. flour,	19 00	
21 gals. molasses,	13 25	
14 lbs. sugar,	2 74	
63 bu. meal,	73 45	

Paid John G. Hall :

128 lbs. beef,	\$12 80
1 pig,	7 00
1 do	3 00
2 scythes, \$2.50, kit mackerel, \$2.50,	5 00
10 yds. delaine, \$3.85, 10 yards print, \$2.50,	6 35
Sundry bills,	36 51
	<hr/> \$179 10
Paid John G. Hall, services 11 mos. 19 days,	210 00
	<hr/> \$987 75.

STOCK AND PROVISIONS AT THE ALMSHOUSE.

50 bu. potatoes, \$37.50, 25 bu. turnips, \$6,	\$43 50
2-5 bbl. pickles, \$3, 1-8 bbl. beef, \$25,	28 00
2 1-2 bbls. pork, \$100, 200 lbs. ham, \$36,	136 00
5 lbs. butter, \$1.50, 10 gals. cider, \$2,	3 50
1 bbl. vinegar, \$6, 50 lbs. lard, \$10,	16 00
1 bbl. flour, \$11, 18 lbs. candles, \$3.60,	14 60
15 bu. oats, \$9, 3 bu. barley, \$4,	13 00
2 bu. buckwheat, \$2.50, 62 bu. corn, \$65,	67 50
4 1-2 bu. beans, \$11.50, 7 lbs. rolls, \$4.20,	15 70
1 yoke oxen, \$230, 1 do. \$200,	430 00
4 cows, \$200, 1 heifer, ———	<hr/>
9 tons Eng. hay, \$162, 5 do. run hay, \$60	122 00
1 horse,	125 00
	<hr/> \$1,014 80

NOTE.—The value of 4 cows, \$200.00, and 1 heifer, ———, is to be added to to this amount.—[Printer.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR SUPPORT OF POOR OFF THE FARM.

RECEIPTS.

By cash from town treasury,	<u>\$59 00</u>
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EXPENDITURES.

Paid Dr. J. F. Brown, medical attendance	
on Albert Rand,	\$29 00
Geo. Cammet, board and housing,	30 00
	<u>\$59 00</u>

The following is a list of the names and ages of the inmates of the Almshouse :

John Dunlap, 75 years.	Philip Shea, 75 years.
Philip Flanders, 65 years.	Frank Flanders, 5 years.
Abigail Lane, 59 “	Sarah A. Potter, 48 “
Hannah Morse, 39 “	Sarah T. Haddock, 77 yrs.

Average number, 10. Present number, 8.

JAMES HOOK, *Overseer of the Poor.*

REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Amount of money appropriated by the town,	\$620 08
Literary fund,	100 00
Total,	<u>\$720 08</u>

The above amount was appropriated to each district as follows :

District No. 1,	\$188 95
“ 2,	96 92
“ 3,	97 90
“ 4,	55 90
“ 5,	38 17
“ 6,	43 99
“ 7,	56 27
“ 8,	67 88
“ 9,	34 36
“ 10,	29 74
“ in Auburn,	10 00

District No. 1. David L. Bachelder, Prudential Committee.

Summer Term.—ELIZABETH B. COOLIDGE, Teacher.

This district was fortunate in securing the services of one who has had several years of experience, and who recently availed herself of the advantages of one of the Normal schools of Massachusetts. We anticipated a prosperous school, and were not disappointed. The improvement in all studies was very evident, but more particularly in reading and arithmetic.

The winter term was taught by the same teacher, and commenced with the same degree of earnestness, and continued for several weeks; and, in the light of its prosperity, its progress was arrested by a combination of circumstances beyond the control of the teacher, and reduced to less than one-half of its average number. The departure of so large a number broke up the classes, discouraged the teacher, and threatened disaster to the school. The school but partially recovered from this paralysis, and the remnant which was present at examination gave evidence of the earnest and faithful labors of the teacher.

Miss C. is peculiarly fitted for the school-room, both by nature and education. She possesses the happy faculty of gaining the affections of her scholars, yet performs her duty faithfully. Her instructions were thorough and practical, and no scholar was permitted to pass over anything which he did not understand. Some very good specimens of map drawing were presented at the close of the summer term. Gymnastics were taught to some extent, affording an excellent exercise and relief to aching heads and limbs. Singing was also introduced, and added much to the interest of the school. Object-teaching was taught, so far as time would permit.

We hope we do not overrate the abilities of Miss C. when we claim for her a high position as a teacher. Could her services be secured another year, this school would resume its appropriate place among the first in town.

Scholars perfect in attendance summer term: Vesta A. Goldsmith, Hattie I. Goldsmith, Evelyn E. Gordon. Those who have not whispered during the term: Julia B. Emery, Annie B. Emery, Isabell Gordon, Jennie Dearborn, Mary Reynolds, Nellie Jones, Georgianna Moore, Laurietta Moore, Carrie Dearborn, Evelyn E. Gordon, Lucy Learnard, Olive McDuffie, Anna Bell, Julia Emery, Vesta Goldsmith, Hattie Goldsmith, Lizzie M. Hazelton, Mary Londergon, Nathan Goldsmith, Mary Cunningham. Those who were neither tardy or absent the winter term; Olive A. McDuffee, Carrie Dearborn, Ellen J. Osgood. Those who have not whispered during the winter term: Georgianna G. Moore, L. Isabell Gordon, Clara J. Weymouth, Anna E. Bell, Ada M. Gerah, Carrie Dearborn, Lizzie M. Hazelton, Sarah Gale, Julia M. M. Emery, Annie B. Emery, Evelyn E. Gordon, Ellen E. Jones, Lucy Learnard, Olive A. McDuffie, Hattie I. Goldsmith, Vesta A. Goldsmith, Susie H. Emery, Myra Gillingham, S. Jennie Dearborn, Mary Londergon, Richard S. Emery, Charles E. Haselton, Frank P. Goldsmith, Nathan W. Goldsmith, Roger S. Morse, Alvin Smith, Webster Gillingham, Charles H. Gordon.

District No. 2. David E. Richardson, Prudential Committee.

Summer and Winter Terms.—M. A. MITCHEL, Teacher.

As both terms were taught by the same teacher, without interruption, it seems unnecessary to make separate reports

for each term. This school is one of the best disciplined schools in town, and if we take into consideration the ages of the scholars, the best in regard to scholarship. The scholars were careful, observing, studious, willing to work, and made good progress.* Order was unexceptionable; instruction thorough and practical; recitations in mental and written arithmetic very good; good improvement in volume of voice in all exercises, particularly in reading; writing books were very neatly kept, and showed fair improvement. Miss M. evidently belongs to that class who believe "success to be a duty." Scholars perfect in attendance, summer term: Lizzie A. Green, Jessie F. Webster, Amos L. Green. Scholars who have not whispered: Alice A. Blake, Florence C. Carr, Ella E. Webster, Mary D. Webster, Mary E. Shirley, Ella F. Hall, Mary L. Hall, Lizzie A. Green, Mary L. Richardson, Lois C. Webster, Jessie F. Webster, George L. Hall, Henry E. Richardson, Charles H. Green, Jesse B. Shirley, Henry H. Fitz, George S. Webster, Leon B. Richardson, Amos L. Green, John M. Webster, Buchanan L. Shirley, James H. Kendall, G. Sherman West, Nelson A. Blake. Those perfect in attendance winter term: M. Lizzie Shirley, Mary D. Webster, Ella E. Webster, Lizzie A. Green, Mary L. Richardson, Henry E. Richardson, Leon B. Richardson, Nelson A. Blake, Amos L. Green, John M. Webster, G. Sherman West, James H. Kendall. G. Sherman West did not fail to answer a question during the term. Names of those who have not whispered this term: M. Lizzie Shirley, Mary D. Webster, Ella E. Webster, Lizzie A. Green, Anna M. Hall, S. Amanda Hall, Lois C. Webster, Jessie F. Webster, Ella F. Hall, C. Henry Green, Jesse B. Shirley, George S. Webster, G. Sherman West, James H. Kendall, Henry E. Richardson.

District No. 3. W. P. W. Whittemore, Prudential Com.

Summer and Winter Terms.—SARAH E. PROVERE, Teacher.

In deciding upon the merits of this school, the first inquiry should be, do we pay the compensation which should insure to us the abilities, energies and efforts of a first-class teacher? If we do, we have a right to expect these qualifications; if we do not, we should be satisfied if we get our money's worth. In comparing the progress of this school with others, I am compelled to the belief that there has been less advancement in this school than any other in town. There has not been study enough performed; there was a want of application; too much whispering, idleness and play, to make that progress which is desirable. Some of the younger scholars made fair improvement in reading; but the older classes read in the same dull, monotonous tone which we noticed last year. The classes in grammar and geography appeared to better advantage than those in arithmetic. The register for the summer term contains but thirteen names of those who have not whispered, while the number of scholars was forty-eight. The register for the winter term gives the whole number forty-nine, but does not record a single name of a scholar who has not whispered. Names of those who were perfect in attendance, summer term: Emma J. Hall, Ella L. Fitz, Charles H. Edwards, Rosanna Sargent, Maria J. Sargent, Annie W. Marsters. Those who did not whisper: Mary J. Robie, Mary A. Fitz, Josephine D. Underhill, Emma J. Hall, Isabella C. Chase, Ella L. Fitz, Ellen E. Nichols, Josie L. Fitz, Geo. M. Clark, George S. Whittemore, Jason S. Chamberlain, Frank N. Clark, Charles H. Edwards.

District No. 4. Edmund Sleeper, Prudential Committee.*Summer Term.*—S. I. STEVENS, Teacher.

This was the first experiment at teaching by Miss S. An amiable disposition, accompanied with a desire to do all in her power to benefit her pupils, could not fail to gain the affection and best wishes of those under her charge. The exercises at the closing examination showed that the teacher possessed a good faculty for explanation, and that fair progress had been made. Names of those who have not whispered: Angie W. Cammet, Carrie F. Hills, Laura A. Hill, Emma A. Lane, Lucy H. Knights, Myron Hills. Four others whispered but once during the term.

District No. 5. J. Wesley Smith, Prudential Committee.MARY J. HEALEY, Teacher.

This school made much better improvement this term than it did a year ago. Miss H. appeared to comprehend her vocation, and labored to the best of her ability to advance this school. A government somewhat more stringent would have been an improvement. Taking into consideration the circumstances attending this school, we think the reasonable expectations of the people of this district must have been realized. Those who have not whispered this term: Sylvania Hazelton, M. Ella Hazelton, George W. Seavey, Milton D. Emerson, Willis H. Caverly, Irving A. Holman, George O. Abbott.

District No. 6. Jason Spofford, Prudential Committee.*Summer Term.*—LIZZIE H. FITZ, Teacher.

The scholars of this school possess a good share of energy,

and when properly controlled and directed, progress is certain. We hope the benefits of a good education are fully appreciated by the citizens of this district, and that they will raise the character of this school to a higher standard, by taking a greater interest, and visit it oftener, and contribute more liberally for a private school. This term was evidently an improvement on that of last year. Good order was maintained throughout the term; perfect lessons were demanded, and habits of industry cultivated. Whispering, the great hindrance to improvement, was nearly banished from the school room. Seventeen out of twenty are reported as not having whispered the entire term. The improvement in reading, mental arithmetic and writing was very evident. Exercises in composition, declamation, and singing, rendered the closing exercises interesting. Names of those who were perfect in attendance: Josie A. Lane, Carrie J. Spofford, Ellen A. Currier. Those who did not whisper: Josie A. Lane, Ellen A. Currier, Carrie Spofford, Jennie French, Mary French, Josephine C. Hardy, Alice M. Smith, Jason Spofford, Willie Towle, Frank Mills, Albert Spofford, Charles Spofford, Samuel Marston, Lauren S. Lane.

District No. 7. George Merrill, John A. Hazelton, William Stevens, Prudential Committee.

Summer Term.—HARRIET M. DINSMORE, Teacher.

This was Miss Dinsmore's first effort at teaching, and, as such, met with fair success. A few terms of school-room experience will place her in the front rank of instructors. The school-room was tastefully trimmed at examination, presenting a beautiful appearance. Singing and declamations

from some very young scholars added to the interest of the occasion. Names of those who were perfect in attendance: Lucretia Ingalls, Jennie P. Hazelton, Ellen Hazelton, Mary Hazelton, Clarence C. Morse, Albert Stevens, Robert Hazelton. Those who have not whispered: Bell Hazelton, Susie D. Hazelton, Sarah L. Hazelton, Abbie S. Jack, N. Ella Stevens, Jennie P. Hazelton, Lucretia Ingalls, Ellen Hazelton, Mary Hazelton, Francis R. Hazelton, Mary F. Hazelton, Laura Kimball, Anna Hazelton, Naman Richardson, Clarence O. Morse, George N. W. Coombs, Albert A. Stevens, Perley A. Kimball, Laura Merrill, Helen Merrill.

Winter Term.—H. M. HAZELTON, Teacher.

The long experience and well-known reputation of Miss H. as teacher renders any commendation on my part unnecessary. It is sufficient to say that she well sustained her former reputation, and that there was fair improvement in all studies, but more particularly in reading and spelling. Names of those who were perfect in attendance: Susie D. Hazelton, Sarah L. Hazelton, Ellen A. Hazelton, Jennie P. Hazelton, Mary E. Spollett. Those who have not whispered: Mary S. Wells, Susie D. Hazelton, Mary Spollett, Jennie P. Hazelton, Mary Frank Hazelton, Frankie R. Hazelton, Laura Merrill, Lucretia Ingalls, Ellen A. Hazelton, Sarah L. Hazelton, Amos Hazelton.

District No. 8. John Wason, 2d, Prudential Committee.

Summer and Winter Terms.—ELIZA J. ROGERS, Teacher.

This school was taught by one who has had considerable experience, and who was energetic and judicious in her mode

of government. The examination was conducted without the appearance of display, and still the progress of each study was fairly exhibited. It was evident that arithmetic had received its full share of attention. There was a very good class in both mental and written arithmetic. Some very good specimens of compositions were read at examination. The writing books were well kept, and some finely written. Names of those who have not whispered: Mary A. Marden, Josie S. Marden, Sarah A. Ward, Abbie Dennis, Josie N. Smith, Maria Warren, Olive L. True, Ada T. True, Charles Dennis, Lauren Wason, Luther B. Lane, Henry E. Merrill, Willie E. Dennis, Nellie A. True, Warren E. Merrill, George G. Dennis, Elden L. Dow.

District No. 9. Simon M. Sanborn, Prudential Committee.

Winter Term.—ELIZA J. ROGERS, Teacher.

This district has the smallest amount of money except one, and the smallest number of scholars of any in town. We do not see but it compares favorably with other schools in scholarship. This is the third year of Miss R.'s instruction in this school, and we have no fears of its losing its comparative standard as long as her services are secured. Names of those who have been perfect in attendance: Julia A. Sanborn, Frank J. Bean. Those who have not whispered: Julia A. Sanborn, Sarah A. West, Joanna C. West, Laura J. Sanborn, Ellen M. Sanborn, Frank J. Bean.

District No. 10. James D. Lane, Superintending Committee.

Fall Term.—LIZZIE H. FITZ, Teacher.

This school was in excellent condition, both as regards

scholarship and discipline. Good progress was made in all studies. Scholars punctual, obedient, industrious, persevering, giving little occasion to their teacher to use authority to secure good order and perfect lessons. Names of those who were perfect in attendance: Lucy H. Knights, Melita J. Knights, Candace E. Knights, Mary A. Wells, Lauren B. Lane, Charles H. Knights. Names of those who have not whispered: Lucy H. Knights, Melita J. Knights, Candace E. Knights, Mary A. Wells, Lauren B. Lane, Charles H. Knights, Amanda M. Currier, Martha B. Lane, Sarah A. Marden, Isabel A. Marden, Isabell C. Knights. Whole number of scholars, 12; those who have not whispered, 11.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The schools of Chester, taken collectively, have made as good, and perhaps greater progress, the past year, than in any one of the last four years, during which it has been my duty to superintend. This result we attribute to the fact that we have pursued one plan in regard to order, text-books, and practical instruction. The proposition to insert in this report the names of those scholars who have not whispered, or who have been neither tardy or absent during the term, has had a salutary effect, inducing the scholar to cultivate self-control, thereby enabling the teacher to use less coercion, and render a resort to corporeal punishment almost unnecessary. Self-government is the basis of strength in the school-room, and also lies at the foundation of our republic. "He that ruleth his spirit is better than he that taketh a city." The practical question now is, are our children deriving the greatest possible good which we have reason to expect from our public schools? If we answer in the negative, we should inquire, first, what is the cause? second, what is the remedy? The most obvious reason is the want of coöperation between the Superintendency and the Prudential Committee. Either these two offices should be merged in one, or the Prudential Committee should not engage a teacher with whose qualifications he is unacquainted. A teacher may give satisfaction in one school, and be incompetent or unfitted to teach some other school in town. Too little interest generally, and sometimes too much *self-interest* is manifested by Prudential Committees,

both in procuring teachers, and sustaining them after they are engaged. As no one can enter the school-room as teacher without having been examined and approved by the Superintending Committee, many suppose that the responsibility of having a successful teacher lies with him. But this is not the case; for the Superintending Committee would not feel justified in withholding a certificate from one who passed a respectable examination, although he would not have selected the individual, if it had been left to him to decide. The Superintending Committee has simply a *veto power* over the selections of the Prudential Committee, which he would be very delicate about using, and would only exercise it in extreme cases, where it appeared to be his imperative duty. Whether a candidate possesses good common sense, energy of character, habits of industry, capacity for government, aptness to teach, ability to interest and secure the esteem of their pupils, a "temper and disposition suitable to be an instructor of youth," are questions every Prudential Committee should carefully consider, before he gives encouragement to any one as teacher. As not more than one out of every ten possesses the necessary qualifications for a teacher, he should be very sure he does not select one out of the nine who our Creator never intended should be instructors of youth. We frequently hear parents remark that their children do not learn because they do not like their teacher, and thus infer that the teacher is wanting in power to interest. Do not some of our parents make too much of this idea? There are two classes who secure the good will of their pupils. The first-named class gain it by a conscientious discharge of their duty. The second class gain it by neglect of duty, and not unfrequently the latter are more popular than the former. Sometimes their popularity is acquired by improper indulgence, either in in-

struction, failing to be thorough, or in discipline, failing to be strict. These are the drones in the hive of industry, for whom we have no sympathy; the workers gather the honey.

We would have no teacher enter the school-room who does not love children; and we would have the love act, not for a momentary, but for their highest good, having the consciousness that it is his mission to develop the intellectual and moral natures, and gain the respect and esteem of his pupils by a faithful discharge of his duty.

No one shall exceed me in denouncing all unkind, ungentelemanly, domineering conduct in the school-room on the part of teachers; or in commending the opposite qualities of kindness, politeness, forbearance and charity toward their pupils; but just so long as children prefer play to study, liberty to restraint, idleness to industry, just so long must authority be exercised in our schools, and children must be taught to study and cultivate self-control. They love to have their own way, and when young may express a preference for an indulgent teacher; but in their more mature years will appreciate the faithful teacher, and cherish for him grateful memories. As a rule, not without exception, we should select those persons who intend to make teaching their pursuit, and wish to establish a good reputation as a teacher. That class of persons who resort to teaching because they have no other business which pays so well at the time, take but little interest in their school, and their highest ambition is to receive a good compensation.

From the registers it appears that very few scholars in our common schools attend to the higher English branches; and if no other opportunities are afforded, they must remain ignorant of many important facts and principles which are of great importance in life. To remedy this to some extent, could not

our teachers select a series of questions, embracing the most important and practical truths in physiology, astronomy, chemistry and history? Questions pertaining to the laws of health, respiration, ventilation, exercise; gravitation, attraction, mechanical powers; planetary systems, motions of the earth, the causes of the changes of the seasons; prominent historical events, particularly the early history of our country, its settlement, its revolutionary struggle, formation and character of our government, its constitution and laws, its executive and legislative departments—questions adapted to the capacity of the entire school? If five or ten minutes were thus devoted each day, a vast amount of general and useful information would thus be acquired. No teacher should be satisfied with teaching only from the text book, but should not only aim to train the mind, but to store it with valuable and useful information.

In reviewing the progress of our schools the past four years, I think any person who has visited the schools, or attended the examinations, will notice essential improvement in many particulars. One indication of increased interest on the part of our citizens, is the large number of visitors at our examinations, and a prompt attendance of the scholars. As an indication of an improved taste, we have seen bouquets of flowers on the teachers' desks, contributed daily by their scholars; also at examination the school-rooms have been beautifully decorated with festoons, bouquets and mottos, together with music, in some instances very good, and always acceptable.

We also claim that instruction is more thorough and practical, enabling the pupil to make application of what he learns to the business of life; that there is more ambition to obtain a good education, as a prerequisite to success in future life; that we have a better class of text books, and in reading

and spelling, have made decided improvement. There is much more attention paid to writing, consequently a larger number of books, and much better specimens of penmanship. Classes in arithmetic have reached a point not hitherto attained, particularly in mental arithmetic, reciting the most difficult problems without a text book. Grammar is better understood; teachers are not satisfied with a long list of definitions, confusing the scholars' minds. We think there has been decided improvement in the general deportment of scholars, less whispering, trifling and idleness in school, less rudeness out of school.

In the expression of these opinions we cast no reflections upon past teachers; we only claim that we have made some slight advance, while there is ample room for farther improvement. Your Committee, having served you for four consecutive years to the best of his ability, is aware how little has been accomplished, and only asks that you will admit that no other citizen feels more deeply interested in the success and prosperity of our common schools than he; that you will select some one the ensuing year, who can bring to the discharge of its duties more talent, learning and leisure; who possesses the happy faculty of doing his duty *fearlessly*, and *offend no one*, and thus give an impulse to the cause of education which shall contribute, in no small degree, to the best interest of the community.

LUTHER FITZ, S. S. *Committee.*

STATISTICAL TABLE.

TEACHERS.

	District No.	Whole number scholars.	Scholars between 4 and 16.	Scholars over 16.	Average attendance.	Cases of tardiness.	Cases of dismissal.	No. not absent one-half day.	No. of weeks.	Wages per month inc. board.
FIRST TERM.										
Elizabeth B. Coolidge,	1	57	56	1	43	111	71	5	10	\$28 00
Mary A. Mitchel,	2	31	31	0	25	4	6	3	9	20 00
Sarah E. Provere,	3	48	45	8	43	23	14	16	8	21 00
S. I. Stevens,	4	14	14	0	10	39	7	0	8	16 00
Mary J. Healey,	5	23	23	0	20	17	5	0	10½	15 48
Lizzie H. Fitz,	6	20	20	0	19	10	0	3	10	16 00
Hattie M. Dinsmore,	7	31	29	2	29	22	2	14	8	—
Eliza J. Rogers,	8	22	20	2	17	9	0	7	7	17 50
Eliza J. Rogers,	9	12	5	7	10	10	0	3	6½	20 00
Lizzie H. Fitz,	10	12	12	0	10	1	0	6	8½	14 00
SECOND TERM.										
E. B. Coolidge,	1	65	63	2	46	82	7	4	12	28 00
M. A. Mitchel,	2	33	33	0	28	14	2	13	9	22 00
S. E. Provere,	3	49	41	3	40	87	9	9	8	24 00
H. M. Hazelton,	7	31	28	3	28	15	7	9	5½	20 00
E. J. Rogers,	8	27	25	2	24	3	0	5	7	22 00

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